

Dear FCC:

I'm concerned about these new rule changes concerning listener supported radio stations. I listen to and over the last nine months have been an active financial supporter of Christian radio stations (Air1) for several key reasons.

- They can present their beliefs and convictions in an honest, genuine way.

- They do not feel that they have to play games with the government or advertisers. It smoothes out the process and lets processes run naturally.

I'm disturbed by the subtle techniques that are being proposed here that will limit the freedoms of Christian radio. A community advisory board would eliminate this freedom from having to play games and jump through asinine bureaucratic hoops. It would also begin to haze over the definitions of free speech, because people with significantly different convictions tend to disagree on what constitutes "appropriate" free speech.

Freedom of religion is one of America's core beliefs. It's also has a history of terrible negligence at the hands of people who feel justified to hold back this right.

"Christian" leaders of our earlier years felt uncomfortable with the traditions and practices of Native Americans, so they slowly took away rights and privileges. They were considered savage pagans, so it was okay, right? Now, their culture stands battered and disheartened.

A lot of people in America don't like Christians, specifically evangelical Christians, because of their strong convictions about specific issues. Forcing them to have a community advisory board strips them of the ability to continue with strong convictions in a world where everyone is too insecure to be committed to anything.

Another issue, implementing requirements about how much staff would be required for these stations, is simply a way of slowly taking the money away. It's almost worse, because it's a more indirect attack. Sponsor dollars are precious to listener supported radio, so I find such a technique repulsive.

I hope that the people considering these rule changes will think very carefully about the consequences of their actions. Freedom of speech and freedom of religion should be held in the absolute highest regard. Being driven by some elusive fear, that strongly-convicted Christians left to their own means will only lead to trouble, does not show discipline or understanding of history. True, greedy men, carrying the banner of "Christian" have done terrible evils in the past, but modern people should be wary that they are not engaging in destructive reasoning under a banner of "tolerance."

Sincerely,

Andrew Wright